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PATENT

Attorney Docket No.: 16828-002010

Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231, on NOVEMBER 24, 1999

TOWNSEND and TOWNSEND and CREW LLP

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

GEOFFREY R. BALL

Application No.: 09/145,374

Filed: September 1, 1998

For: BIASING DEVICE FOR

IMPLANTABLE HEARING

**DEVICES** 

Examiner: LACYK, J.

RECEIVED

Art Unit: 3736

DEC 0 1 1999

**Group 3700** 

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION

REOUIREMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In response to the Restriction Requirement dated October 26, 1999 Applicants respectfully elect to prosecute the claims of Group I (claims 1-15, 20-28, and 31-34), without traverse.

If for any reason the Examiner feels that a telephone conference would in any way expedite prosecution of the subject application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at 650/326-2400.

Respectfully submitted,

lames M. Heslin Reg. No. 29,541

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